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LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 1993 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to bring to your attention the text of the statement on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 1 April 1993 by the Depositary Governments of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

We should be most grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed)	(Signed)	(Signed)
Yuliy VORONTSOV Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation	Edward WALKER Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States of America	Sir David HANNAY KCMG Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Annex

Democratic People's Republic of Korea:
NPT Co-Depositaries Statement

The Governments of the Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States, which are the depositary Governments of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), wish to issue the following statement:

"We express regret and concern at the announcement by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of its intention to withdraw from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Since the NPT is an essential element of international peace and security, DPRK withdrawal from the NPT would constitute a serious threat to regional and international stability.

We question whether the DPRK's stated reasons for withdrawing from the Treaty constitute extraordinary events relating to the subject-matter of the Treaty. In this regard, we recall that nuclear-related security assurances have been provided to the DPRK as a non-nuclear-weapon State party to the NPT.

Remaining a party to the Treaty and complying fully with its terms would be in the DPRK's interests. It would help to reassure the international community about the nature of the DPRK's nuclear programme and the DPRK's desire for positive international relations, including peaceful nuclear cooperation.

Moreover, DPRK withdrawal from the NPT would jeopardize stability on the Korean peninsula, which has improved in recent years, and undermine efforts to implement the North-South Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

We urge the DPRK to retract its announcement and to comply fully with its Treaty commitments and its safeguards obligations, which remain in force. In this respect, we strongly support the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to implement its safeguards agreement with the DPRK."

The three Governments call upon all NPT parties to associate themselves with this statement and to urge the DPRK to reconsider its position and to fulfil its commitment under the Treaty.

1 April 1993